Promotions in the Excise Department.

39. *MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the principles adopted by the Excise Department in the matter of giving promotions?

MR C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Seniority in service, coupled with qualification, merit and efficiency, is the guiding principle adopted in the matter of giving promotions.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether seniority in service is always reckoned as the sole criterion for giving promotions?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is clear from the answer given.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): The answer does not appear to be very clear. That is why I ask the member whether seniority in service is always reckoned for giving promotions?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I have nothing more to say than the answer now furnished.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Qnilon II*): May I know whether seniority is not the sole criterion?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The answer says that it is not.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether qualification is the sole criterion for giving promotions?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Suppose there is a senior man without university qualifications and a junior man with university qualifications. In the case of promotions, how will the policy enunciated by the member work?

PRESIDENT: You must not ask hypothetical questions.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): The member says that seniority in service, coupled with qualification, merit and efficiency, is reckoned as the guiding principle for giving promotions. Suppose there is a senior man with less qualifications and a junior man with high university qualifications. In such a case, may I know to whom the promotion will go?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): When that arises, it will be decided on a consideration of all the points mentioned in the answer.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Has the Excise Commissioner at any time overlooked the claims of senior men in service in favour of junior men with university qualifications, in the matter of promotions?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I might have done it according to the principles enunciated in the answer.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is there one Excise Inspector called Mr. Moreira at Punalour ?

PRESIDENT : That does not arise.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): I want to ask another question. Whether, in the matter of determining promotions, any person's claims have been overlooked though he was admittedly the senior officer in service.

PRESIDENT : If you want to ask about special cases, you must put down that as a separate question. This question is a very general one.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : Therefore it is I ask him whether there is any case in which the claims of senior men have been overlooked in favour of junior men with high university qualifications ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): If junior men deserved promotion for reasons stated in the answer, I might have preferred them to seniors by service.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : Am I to take it that the member is not in a position to say whether in any case the claims of seniority in service have not been overlooked ? Is it only a question of might or might not have?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The claims of seniority might have been overlooked in some cases.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : That is not my question. I want a definite answer, and it is capable of being answered.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : For sufficient reasons, the claims of seniority might have been overlooked.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : I am asking the member whether in any case the Excise Commissioner happened to overlook the claims of senior men in favour of juniors who had university qualifications.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I have answered that question.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): I want to know whether the member has done so or not.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : I claim notice.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKER (*Shertala II*) : May I know whether the member has overlooked the claims of acting men in permanent vacancies when those vacancies were filled up ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The claims of acting men are considered whenever vacancies are filled up.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKER (*Shertala II*) : May I know whether the Excise Commissioner has or has not overlooked the claims of acting men ?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The claims of acting men have not been overlooked. If the member could point out definite instances, I may be able to answer him.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the member has come across competing claims of senior men with less qualifications and those of junior men with better qualifications?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Of course in the member's Department?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether, in the matter of appointment, more emphasis is given to qualification or to seniority in service, in cases of equal merit?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): For certain appointments, certain qualifications are prescribed. For example, for the post of Assistant Excise Commissioner, only graduates are appointed. Appointments go not by mere seniority in service alone, but seniority in service coupled with qualifications as well.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In the case of Excise Inspectors, has any such qualification been prescribed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know from the member, when is it that the Government laid down that, for the post of Assistant Excise Commissioner, only graduates will be appointed?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know whether merit and efficiency alone are considered for promotions?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I have answered that question.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): With regard to men in service, may I know whether service and efficiency alone will be considered for promotion?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Seniority, merit and efficiency, all these are considered for promotions.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): Is not preference given according to communal representation?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The principle of communal representation is not followed in the matter of promotions.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): In the matter of initial recruitments, am I to understand that communal representation is the rule?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : In the matter of first recruitment alone, are communal claims considered ; and promotions go by seniority, qualification merit and efficiency.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd.*)

DEMAND II—TAXES ON INCOME

PRESIDENT : The House will continue the voting on Demands for Grants. The next Demand is Demand II—Taxes on Income, and the discussion on that will close at 1-30. After tiffin, the Excise Department will be taken up and it will be discussed for 2½ hours.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Before we proceed to the discussion of Demands, I wish to clear one doubt. I want to know whether we are going to get half a day *excluding* question time for minor Demands; because, the practice formerly was to compute 5 hours as a day, excluding question time so that we got 2½ hours for half a day.

PRESIDENT : Yesterday I tried to make it clear that question time is to be included for purposes of calculating half a day. I am perfectly willing to do whatever the House desires on the point. At present, my ruling is that question time is included in the computation of a day.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : May I suggest tha question time be deducted from the total number of hours allotted for each day and the remaining time divided by two for calculating half-a-day? For instance, in this case excluding one hour for interpellations, the remaining four hours may be divided by two so that it will come to two hours for Income Tax and another two hours for Excise.

PRESIDENT : I don't think we can do like that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : A day is reckoned as five hours and question time takes one hour. We will divide the remaining four hours for the discussion of two Demands. According to the President's statement, we have only 1½ hours left for discussing Income Tax; and we will have 2½ hours for Excise. Is it not better to deduct the question time from the whole day and divide the rest *equally* for the two Demands?

PRESIDENT : I don't think we can divide the day like that.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : Now, there are more members in the House, and more subjects come up for consideration than formerly. According to former practice, question time was excluded, and a day was reckoned as five hours and 2½ hours constituted half a day.

PRESIDENT : I am entirely in the hands of the House.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : If we go by Mr. Changanachery K. Paramesvaran Pillai's suggestion, we have to sit for longer hours in the day. I also agree with him. I request that five hours may be considered as one day and 2½ hours as half a day. I request the President to order like that so that we can do full justice to our work.

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